

**Department of Health and Human Services
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
National Cancer Institute**

**Minutes of the Research Translation, Dissemination, and Policy Implications
Subcommittee of the Interagency Breast Cancer and Environmental Research
Coordinating Committee**

June 14, 2011

The Research Translation, Dissemination, and Policy Implications (RTDPI) Subcommittee of the Interagency Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Coordinating Committee (IBCERCC) was convened for a meeting on June 14, 2011 at 1:00 PM EST via conference call. The Chair of the subcommittee was Jeanne Rizzo, R.N. of the Breast Cancer Fund.

Subcommittee Members Present

Beverly Canin
Ronda Henry-Tilman, M.D.
Karen Miller
Marcus Plescia, M.D., M.P.H.
Jeanne Rizzo, R.N.

NIH Staff Present

Christie Kaefer, M.B.A., R.D. (NCI)
Liam O'Fallon, M.A. (NIEHS)

Guests

Connie Engel, Ph.D. (Breast Cancer Fund)
Rebecca Levine (member of the public, from Office of Jonathan W. Simons, M.D.;
President and Chief Executive Officer, Prostate Cancer Foundation)

I. BACKGROUND

The Interagency Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Coordinating Committee (IBCERCC) is a congressionally mandated body established by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), in collaboration with the National Cancer Institute (NCI). This Committee is comprised of 19 voting members, including representatives of Federal agencies; non-federal scientists, physicians, and other health professionals from clinical, basic, and public health sciences; and advocates for individuals with breast cancer.

The Committee's primary mission is to facilitate the efficient and effective exchange of information on breast cancer research activities among the member agencies, and to advise the NIH and other Federal agencies in the solicitation of proposals for collaborative, multidisciplinary research, including proposals to further evaluate environmental and genomic factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer. The Committee serves as a forum and

assists in increasing public understanding of the member agencies' activities, programs, policies, and research, and in bringing important matters of interest forward for discussion.

The objectives of the RTDPI Subcommittee of the IBCERCC are integrated and dependent on the objectives and activities of the other Subcommittees of the IBCERCC and include the following: to identify successful models as well as gaps in research translation and dissemination, to make recommendations to improve both with an emphasis on breast cancer and the environment; to make policy recommendations to that end; to address areas in which the scientific evidence on breast cancer and the environment supports precautionary public health policy; and to identify methods to expand public participation in the research translation and dissemination processes to more effectively involve patient advocacy and community organizations, environmental health, environmental justice as well as practitioners in public health and health care delivery.

The sixth meeting (conference call) of the RTDPI Subcommittee took place on June 14, 2011. During this meeting, the May 12-13 meeting was discussed, along with the draft report. The minutes from the May meetings were reviewed and approved with corrections.

II. DISCUSSION

Team 1 Update

Team 1 discussed the matrix of model research translation and dissemination programs and their key elements, with an emphasis on models that could be emulated. This matrix may also be useful to other IBCERCC Subcommittees. There was discussion that it might be useful to identify what aspects of the environment each model focuses on, although some are broader in focus than breast cancer and the environment. Jeanne recommended that Team 1 revisit the original definitions and goals of the Subcommittee and use those as a guide in the development of their recommendations. The Subcommittee liked the matrix because it reduces a great deal of information, but there is a need for some narrative.

Team 1's goal is to include the matrix as an appendix to the report, and develop narrative for the chapter about the essential components of the models for the purpose of research translation. Jeanne also recommended that Team 1 consider selecting one model from the matrix and discuss specific strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges associated with that particular model. Liam also recommended adding web links for each model when available.

Team 2

Team 2 has not been able to come together since the May meeting in North Carolina. Jeanne encouraged everyone to review the National Conversation Report (still open for public comment) and asked Marcus if he could develop some narrative about the report to help connect it to other existing reports and ongoing efforts. Marcus just received a copy of the report and will be meeting with the group formally in the next few weeks. Liam recommended that RTDPI members specifically look at Chapter 4: Communities, where there is a recommendation for capacity building.

Jeanne also mentioned that the President's Cancer Panel will focus on prevention in the coming year. Everyone was encouraged to share any information they might receive about the upcoming President's Cancer Panel Meetings, specifically because there may be opportunities to nominate experts for the meetings. Information about Lisa Jackson's principles for the EPA were shared via email and Jeanne will try to find more about whether confidential business information (CBI) has been a barrier.

Team 2 agreed to get together the week of July 18th to continue work on their chapter of the IBCERCC report. It was pointed out again that there is overlap in this area with other IBCERCC Subcommittees and more info will be needed from them.

Communications Chapter

The previous discussions of toolkit recommendations were discussed briefly. Marcus could ask Galen Cole at CDC to outline some recommendations for what might be appropriate in such a toolkit. Liam O'Fallon indicated he has some thoughts on this as well. Other contributors are welcome to join them. Liam mentioned there may be some additional useful information generated during the July 15th Partnerships in Environmental Public Health meeting at NIH which will focus on communications with a variety of target audiences.

RTDPI Case Study

The RTDPI Subcommittee members discussed what worked well and what did not work well with the recent example of the NTP's Report on Carcinogens (released June 10, 2011) as a case study or model for research translation, dissemination, communication, and policy implications. The Report is typically updated every few years, but there was a delay with this report due to industry concern related to the inclusion of some new chemicals. Questions posed by Jeanne to the group included:

- Did you know in advance that the report was being released?
- If you did not know in advance, how might advance notice have altered your communications approach?
- In an ideal model,
 - Who would know about such a report in advance so they could be posted to respond to its contents?
 - What would they need to know?
 - What are the translational messages to emerge from the report?
 - How could it be disseminated/communicated?
 - What are the key policy implications? What process should be used to determine policy implications?

The broader questions raised include:

- How do Federal agencies communicate important/controversial scientific findings? This is currently not clear. Federal staff involved with RTDPI encouraged to ask within their organizations whether there is any specific protocol.
- How do Federal agencies engage the community to help translate, communicate, and disseminate information to the public about ways to decrease potentially harmful exposures?

Christie was not sure whether NCI received advance notice of the Report on Carcinogens, but can ask the Press Office, but there was also an IARC monograph on cell phones and brain cancer that was announced around the same time that received a lot of attention and there was advance notice at NCI about that report. Karen Miller is a member of the NIEHS Public Interest Partners (PIP) and learned about the Report on Carcinogens 8-9 months ago. The PIP may be an existing infrastructure that could be utilized more to obtain community feedback ahead of time on various issues. Liam to ask at NIEHS whether this might be possible. Jeanne suggested that maybe RTDPI members could use the Report on Carcinogens example as a basis for recommendations on communications models.

Action Items:

- Team 1 will continue to work on the matrix and will have a call in July.
- Team 2 to get together week of July 18th to work on the policy chapter.
- Liam and potentially Galen Cole will outline some recommendations for a communications toolkit.
- All encouraged to review:
 - Karen Miller's overview
 - the National Conversation on Chemical Exposures (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/nationalconversation/>)
 - Lisa Jackson's principles for EPA related to TSCA
- Both teams will work on writing for their chapters. Specifically, each team should think about the language they want to introduce each chapter if it is possible to have an introduction to each chapter, in addition to an introduction of the RTDPI section of the IBCERCC report.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m. on June 14, 2011.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes and attachments are accurate and complete.

/Jeanne Rizzo/

Jeanne Rizzo, RN

Chairperson

Research Translation, Dissemination, and Policy Implications Subcommittee

Interagency Breast Cancer & Environmental Research Coordinating Committee

/Gwen W. Collman/

Gwen W. Collman, PhD

Executive Secretary

Research Process Subcommittee

Interagency Breast Cancer & Environmental Research Coordinating Committee

Proper signatures
Treat as signed, § 1.4(d)(2)